

## Partner News



[Festivus](#), Kwanza,  
Christmas, Hanukkah or  
whatever you choose to  
celebrate this time of  
year... May you all have a  
happy and healthy season  
this year and a  
prosperous New Year!

Sincerely,

The Software To Go Staff



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636-441-3420

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1385 Triad Center Dr.

St. Peters, MO 63376

### Unchecked blogs a boon to hackers

Blogging sites that fail to check software stored by users are proving useful to hackers, according to web monitoring firm Websense.

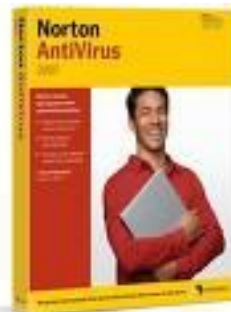
Websense claims to have identified hundreds of cases of hackers using blogs to store Trojan software and other malicious code, because blogging firms seldom check to see what code they are hosting.

Hackers exploit blogs in a number of ways. In March a hacker placed key-logging software onto a blog site. The URL was then spammed out purporting to be a message from a popular messaging service. The message offered a new version of an instant messaging program, but when users clicked on the link the key-logging software was installed.

A more advanced technique is to use a blog page to store malicious code updates.

Both methods use browser attacks, which experts warn are becoming increasingly popular. These attacks bypass firewall and intrusion detection software by entering systems through improperly patched browsers.

### Norton 2008



Norton AntiVirus 2008 includes two 'additional bonus installs', which means you

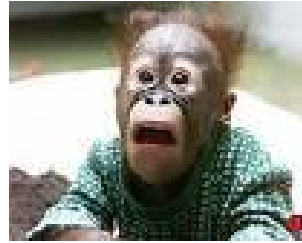
can install it on three PCs, which makes it much better value.

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Norton AntiVirus 2008 now allows one PC to manage other Norton AntiVirus 2008 (or Norton Internet Security) installs on other network PCs, which could be very handy in family situations. Norton AntiVirus 2008 also checks the status of wireless network security, alerting you if you connect to an unsecured wireless network.

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## Did you know?

### Toner scam artists

They're known as **Toner Phoners** -- slippery scam artists posing as Xerox employees to sell you toner at outrageous prices. Toner Phoners will ask for a customer's product number. *Real Xerox employees already know the product number.* Any sales rep who solicits equipment numbers is not a legitimate Xerox Employee. Here are two questions you should ask to confirm the legitimacy of the caller.

- Ask if there are additional charges other than state and local taxes. If the answer is yes, say no to the impostor.
- Ask for the caller's name and employee ID number.

Remember, telephone sales people, by law, are required to tell you what company is soliciting your business at the beginning of the conversation. If you suspect that a Toner Phoner has targeted you, contact the Xerox Silent Witness Program toll free, at 1-800-338-2327 and the [National Fraud Information Center](#) at 1-800-876-7060.



## **FW:FW: Email Stories**

Ever receive one of those well meaning emails that have been forward to you from a friend or relative? You know the one, the subject line has FW:FW:FW: and the sender has sent it to their entire address book. Without researching the subject they send a warning of some dangerous situation or dire warning about devastating new viruses, Trojans that eat the heart out of your system and malicious software that can steal the computer right off your desk.

Added to that are messages about free money, children in trouble and other subjects designed to grab you and get you to forward the message to everyone you know. Most all of these messages are hoaxes or chain letters.

**Always check the validity of any story!** A couple websites that are great dispelling any urban legends, hoaxes, alerts to what so and so is doing or Internet rumors are:

<http://hoaxbusters.ciac.org/> - Information about hoaxes, chain letters, urban myths and other bogus information being routed around the internet.

<http://www.snopes.com/> - The definitive Internet reference source for urban legends, folklore, myths, rumors, and misinformation.

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office!*



## **Speaking of Scams...**

Some of the worst scams and schemes prey on people wanting to start a small business or looking for ways to have extra income. Among these are:

- Grants to fund a business
- Franchises
- Invention Assistance
- Venture Capital
- Work-at-Home ideas
- Health Insurance



**The following organizations offer assistance in dealing with scams**

## The holiday season is hunting season for identity thieves!

- ✚ Contact a charity directly to make a donation
- ✚ Either shred or tear up unwanted receipts
- ✚ Use your body to shield your ATM transactions
- ✚ Be alert. Don't let yourself be distracted by the festive decorations
- ✚ Throwing away an old computer? Erase the hard drive first!

### and schemes:

- [Better Business Bureau](http://www.bbb.org) - investigates business schemes and charitable giving scams - <http://www.bbb.org>
- [Federal Trade Commission](https://rn.ftc.gov/pls/dod/wsolcq$.startup?Z_ORG_CODE=PU01) - investigates consumer fraud complaints. File a complaint on-line at [https://rn.ftc.gov/pls/dod/wsolcq\\$.startup?Z\\_ORG\\_CODE=PU01](https://rn.ftc.gov/pls/dod/wsolcq$.startup?Z_ORG_CODE=PU01). Also check the information on currently popular schemes found at <http://www.ftc.gov/bizopps/>.
- [Econsumer.com](http://www.econsumer.gov/english/index.html) - created by over 20 nations to address cross-border consumer complaints - <http://www.econsumer.gov/english/index.html>
- [Internal Revenue Service](http://www.irs.gov/compliance/enforcement/article/0,,id=121259,00.html) - investigates tax fraud complaints and tax schemes - <http://www.irs.gov/compliance/enforcement/article/0,,id=121259,00.html>
- [Internet Crime Complaint Center](http://www.ic3.gov/) - This is a joint effort of the FBI and the National White Collar Crime Center to locate and prosecute Internet schemes and scams - <http://www.ic3.gov/>
- [National Check Fraud Center](http://www.ckfraud.org/repform.html) - investigates complaints of check fraud. File complaints on-line at <http://www.ckfraud.org/repform.html>. Also contact your bank.
- [National Association of Insurance Commissioners](https://external-apps.naic.org/ofrs/) investigates complaints of suspected insurance fraud. File an on-line report at <https://external-apps.naic.org/ofrs/>. Also contact the Idaho Department of Insurance at <http://www.doi.state.id.us/>.
- [National Fraud Information Center](http://fraud.org/about.htm) - accepts complaints, particularly against telemarketers and Internet schemes. Complaints are forwarded to the proper agency for investigation. <http://fraud.org/about.htm>
- [National Inventor Fraud Center, Inc.](http://www.inventorfraud.com/) - information on frauds committed against inventors. <http://www.inventorfraud.com/>
- [U.S. Department of Justice Criminal Division](http://www.usdoj.gov/criminal/cybercrime/reporting.htm) - investigates violations of Federal law, including bank fraud, securities schemes, computer and internet fraud, and other complex white-collar crimes. <http://www.usdoj.gov/criminal/cybercrime/reporting.htm>
- [U.S. Postal Service](http://www.usps.com/postalinspectors/fraud/welcome.htm) - investigates mail fraud complaints and schemes that involve the U.S. mail system. <http://www.usps.com/postalinspectors/fraud/welcome.htm>
- [WAHM Undercover](http://www.wahm.com/under.html) - investigates and reports on work-at-home schemes, particularly schemes that prey on stay-at-home moms <http://www.wahm.com/under.html>

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